



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

26 OCTOBER 2021

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Alabama – Former Air War College Professor Admits to Concealing Chinese Contacts

(U) Montgomery – A former professor at a US Air Force school in Alabama has pleaded guilty to lying to a federal investigator about his contacts with a Chinese official, prosecutors said yesterday. Xiaoming Zhang, 69, a naturalized citizen of Chinese descent, taught at Air War College on Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery. He faces up to five-years in prison after pleading guilty to a charge of making false statements to a federal agent. Zhang, who held a security clearance because of his work, wasn't accused of passing along secrets, just of concealing his face-to-face meetings and e-mails with a Chinese official, prosecutors said. Zhang was accused of doing so from December 2012 until January 2017.

SOURCE: 25 October 2021, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Colorado – Nearly 30,000 Students Personal Data Stolen During University Data Breach

(U) Boulder – The University of Colorado Boulder is sending notification to roughly 30,000 former and current students that have been impacted by a data breach, according to a release from the university. The university said the third-party software, provided by Atlassian, had a vulnerability that impacted a program used by the Office of Information Security. The office did an analysis that showed some data was accessed by a hacker.

SOURCE: 25 October 2021, [KDVR](#)

(U) District of Columbia – Anti-Asian Hate Crimes Rose 73% Last Year

(U) Washington – Anti-Asian hate crimes increased more than 73-percent in 2020, according to newly corrected FBI data. It's a disproportionate uptick compared to hate crimes in general, which rose 13-percent. An online breakdown confirmed what scholars, activists and community leaders have known for a long time, that anti-Asian incidents took a dramatic upswing during the pandemic. The FBI reported 279 hate crimes against Asians in 2020, compared to 161 in 2019.

SOURCE: 25 October 2021, [NBC News](#)

(U) Idaho – Mall Shooting Leaves Two Dead, Four Injured

(U) Boise – Two people were killed and four others, including a police officer, were injured yesterday in a shooting at a shopping center in Boise, Idaho, that ended with the lone suspect taken into custody, authorities said. Boise Police Chief Ryan Lee told reporters at a briefing that police responded to reports of a shooting at the Boise Towne Square mall shortly before 2 p.m. Officers arriving on the scene "encountered an individual matching the suspect's description," leading to an exchange of gunfire with the assailant that left one officer injured and the shooter arrested, the chief said.

SOURCE: 26 October 2021, [Reuters](#)

(U) Florida – Man Pleads Guilty to Assisting ISIS

(U) Miami – A Miami man who posted pipe bomb instructions on the internet for people he believed to be followers of the Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) faces up to 15-years in prison, US authorities said yesterday. Samuel Baptiste, 29, pleaded guilty Friday to attempting to provide material support to the terrorist organization in the Middle East. According to court records, Baptiste attempted to provide

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material support to ISIS in late 2016 by posting information on the internet with links to information about explosive devices, including a bomb-making manual. Federal prosecutors say Baptiste posted and distributed online documents titled "Instructions: How to Make a Homemade Pipe Bomb," "Pipe Bombs," "Improvised Explosive Devices," and "Improvised Munitions Black Book, Volume 1." SOURCE: 25 October 2021, [Miami Herald](#)

(U) Maryland – Judge to Sentence Neo-Nazi Group Members

(U) Greenbelt – Two neo-Nazi group members intended to engage in terrorist activity before FBI agents arrested them ahead of a pro-gun rally in Virginia, a federal judge concluded yesterday. US District Judge Theodore Chuang's decision to apply a "terrorism enhancement" in sentencing the men favors prosecutors' recommendation that both of them get 25-years in prison. Prosecutors said Canadian Armed Forces reservist Patrik Jordan Mathews and US Army veteran Brian Mark Lemley Jr planned to carry out a massacre inspired by their white supremacist ideology. FBI agents arrested Lemley and Mathews and a third member of a white supremacist group called The Base. The group has been a leading proponent of "accelerationism," a fringe philosophy that advocates using mass violence to hasten society's collapse. Lemley and Mathews pleaded guilty in June to gun charges. SOURCE: 25 October 2021, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Missouri – 500-Pounds of Methamphetamine Seized During Operation

(U) St Louis – The Drug Enforcement Administration busted a large-scale, multi-state drug trafficking ring and 11 people from St. Louis have been arrested. According to a recent 16-count indictment, this was a long-running drug distribution conspiracy operating in Missouri, California, Arizona, and Texas. Court documents also state the conspiracy included mailing and shipping packages containing large amounts of illegal drugs to be distributed around St Louis and other cities in the United States. The US Postal Inspection Service and its law enforcement partners have investigated this drug trafficking network for the past three-years. Officials say the network is operated largely by violent gangs around the country. SOURCE: 25 October 2021, [Fox 2 Now](#)

(U) Virginia – "Unite the Right" Civil Trial Begins

(U) Charlottesville – More than four-years after white supremacists wreaked havoc in Charlottesville, Virginia, victims of the violence are suing the neo-Nazis and white nationalists who organized the protests, claiming in civil court that the organizers of the "Unite the Right" rally planned the violent attacks against counter-protesters, resulting in the death of one protester and the injury of more than a dozen others. The trial began yesterday in federal court with jury selection. Ten members of the Charlottesville community, some of whom were injured as a result of the violence, brought the lawsuit against a group of neo-Nazis, white supremacists, and hate groups. Ten organizations are being sued and the other 14 defendants are people who orchestrated the weekend events that culminated in violence in August 2017 claim their actions are covered by freedom of speech and that the violence was unplanned and took place when rally goers acted in self-defense, while plaintiffs claim that it was carefully coordinated. SOURCE: 25 October 2021, [CBS News](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Germany – German Court Sentences ISIS Supporter to 10-Years for Death of Child

(U) Berlin – A German convert to Islam was sentenced to 10-years in prison yesterday on charges that, as a member of ISIS in Iraq, she allowed a 5-year-old Yazidi girl she and her husband kept as a slave to die of thirst in the hot sun. The court convicted the 30-year-old, identified only as Jennifer W., membership of a terrorist organization abroad, aiding and abetting attempted murder, attempted war

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crimes, and crimes against humanity. Federal prosecutors had accused the woman, from Lohne in Lower Saxony, of standing by in Iraq as her then-husband chained the young Yazidi girl in a courtyard and left her to die of thirst.

SOURCE: 25 October 2021, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Mexico – Army Captures Sinaloa Cartel Leader

(U) Madera – The Mexican army is reporting the capture of a top Sinaloa cartel operative in the state of Chihuahua and the killing of a Gulf cartel leader in Matamoros, Mexico. An army unit based in Madera, Chihuahua, engaged in a firefight with members of a cell of the Sinaloa cartel on Friday in the town of La Norteña; the shootout led to the capture of Francisco Arvizu Marquez, a.k.a. "The Jaguar." Arvizu sustained gunshot injuries and was taken into custody along with three other alleged drug traffickers. He was wanted on charges of organized crime and murder and is considered one of the main "generators of violence" in Western Chihuahua, the Defense Ministry said in a statement.

SOURCE: 25 October 2021, [Border Report](#)

(U) Netherlands – More Than 150 Arrested in Global Crackdown on Darknet Traders

(U) The Hague – At least 150 people have been arrested by European and US authorities after a joint crackdown on traders of drugs, weapons, and other illicit goods on darknet e-commerce sites, Dutch media reported today citing police agency Europol. Cash and cryptocurrency worth \$31 million and 234-kilograms of drugs were also seized, according to Dutch media. "This operation proves that we can reach (criminals on the dark web) even if they think they are hiding somewhere, they cannot be sure we won't be there at one moment to knock on their door," Europol's deputy executive director of operations, Jean-Philippe Lecouffe said. According to the Dutch media 65 US nationals were arrested, along with 47 Germans, 24 Brits, and a handful of Dutch, French, Swiss and Bulgarian nationals.

SOURCE: 26 October 2021, [Reuters](#)

(U) Sudan – Sudan's Military Takes Control in Coup, Arrests Prime Minister

(U) Khartoum – Sudan's military seized power yesterday, dissolving the transitional government hours after troops arrested the prime minister, and thousands flooded the streets to protest the coup. Security forces opened fire on some of them, killing three protesters, according to the Sudan Doctors' Committee, which also said 80 people were wounded. The takeover, which drew condemnation from the UN, the US and the European Union, comes more than two-years after protesters forced the ouster of longtime autocrat Omar al-Bashir and just weeks before the military was supposed to hand the leadership of the council that runs the country over to civilians.

SOURCE: 25 October 2021, [Associated Press](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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